

CASTLE ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY CASTLE ROCK MUSEUM

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Established 1991

P.O. Box 1572
Castle Rock, CO 80104

July 14, 2016

Castle Rock Town Council
100 S. Wilcox St.
Castle Rock, CO 80104

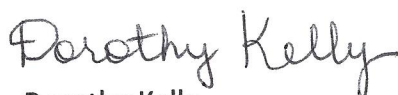
Dear Mr. Mayor, Town Council and Town Manager,

2016 has been another great year for the Society and Museum. A report on activities at the Museum provided by the Director is attached. Below are some of the exciting activities undertaken by the Society.

Our interesting monthly historic programs at the Library attract people wanting to learn about Castle Rock and longtime residents who want to share stories about life in Castle Rock through history. In addition the Society conducts annual cemetery tours which always results in large crowds. The Society supports the Castle Rock Museum with funding and volunteers. The Society also conducts several fundraising events and has increased donations through Colorado Gives. On May 21, 2016 the Society & Museum staff enjoyed our 1st Annual Victoria's Tea. The fundraiser had a great community response with sold out tickets. The afternoon program gave an opportunity to learn about historic figures of Castle Rock along with a tour of the landmarked Sanctuary of Christ's Episcopal Church. We will add this to our repertoire of fundraising events. The newsletter always features historic buildings of Castle Rock and interesting personal stories. The Society works with other community groups to do and provide interesting programs.

We greatly appreciate the strong support of the Town Council to help us operate the museum. We believe the museum is a great treasure for the community that our organization is dedicated to preserve.

You are always welcome to visit the Museum. We always try to accommodate the schedules of our visitors. Thank you again for your support. We look forward to seeing you!



Dorothy Kelly
President, Castle Rock Historical Society

Report for the Town of Castle Rock by the Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum 1-2016

The featured exhibit for 2016 is a display on the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. The museum is, of course, the depot built by the D & RG. The contract signed by town fathers is on display. It shows that local people had to provide \$500 and several blocks of land to ensure that the depot would be built in 1875. The depot was key to the economic development of the town. It provided transportation for rhyolite, agricultural products and people. Several months of negotiating were involved before the depot became a certainty.

The theme of this year's Historic Trolley Tour in May was history in your neighborhood. The tour was designed to show that there are many interesting historic features all around town not just in the downtown area. The town of Douglas, quarries and the CCC camp were just some of the locations on the tour. This was the seventh annual Historic Preservation month tour. We appreciate the support of the town for these tours. Five full capacity tours were conducted on 14 May.

Phase 1 of the \$72,000 State Historical Fund grant has been completed. The museum has a new heating system and is now enjoying air conditioning for the first time. In addition to the comfort it affords, the HVAC system helps preserve artifacts by maintaining constant temperature and humidity. The second phase, a new roof for the museum, is scheduled to be completed this August. It will replace the 38 year-old rusting metal roof. It is the goal of the society and museum to maintain and preserve the historic building.

The museum is again in the process of working with Adventist Hospital to name their second medical office building. As we did with the Alexander Building we have researched the name of a prominent local citizen and will curate an exhibit for the building lobby. The hospital requested the possibility of a prominent nurse as a name for the next building. We were able to select Mary Briscoe, a Castle Rock resident, who served as the county nurse.

The summer historic walking tours in downtown Castle Rock continue to be very popular. It is another way for new residents to learn about the town and brings folks to the downtown area. Visitors to the museum come from the town, local area as well as around the country. Second graders come from the local schools to learn about their community and its history.

The society seeks to participate in community events such as the car show where the museum can make an added contribution. We support town staff requests for historic information and find town staff most supportive of our mission as well.

Operating expenses for the museum for the first half of the year were \$ 52,307.00 including preservation projects. The funds are used for salaries, utilities, maintenance, exhibits and training. Other funds which support the museum come from donations, gift shop sales, recycling and donated services. Reserve funds are also maintained to provide for unexpected problems. Both hot water heaters exceeded their expected life and were replaced. Grants are used for one time building preservation projects with matching funds from the society.

Angie DeLeo 
Director, Castle Rock Museum